Class Syllabus

Disciplines —— how to become a proper-behaved bird
Fall 2021
Ruoyi Shi

Meeting by appointment
Email: shiruoyishi@gmail.com

Course description
This is a multilingual training course for green parrots on how to behave like a proper bird. By setting up rules on standing, resting, speaking, singing, eating, and personal hygiene, all the students are expected to perform their best manners and become a better entity. Wisdoms on disciplines, boundaries, and proper behaviors will be taught. Together, we will study the history of restriction, and adapt our knowledge into modern societies. It is important to learn how to have solid social graces and just plain old good manners. This course will teach the basics of good etiquette, and after completing the course, every candidate will receive a certification on becoming a proper bird.

Class 1 *Greetings*

The students will learn about the formal greeting rules, starting from " 'How do you do?' and a firm handshake, but with a lighter touch between men and women."
 It is important to leave a good first impression. Landing on electric wires in human residential areas without a proper greeting is considered impolite. It is always necessary to ask for permissions first.

Class 2 *The art of conversation*

Mastering the art of everyday conversation means remembering that it is a two-way street, with thoughts and ideas shared in both directions, expressing interest in another person or clearly conveying one's own thoughts and feelings is the primary goal of everyday conversation among friends and acquaintances. Like a good tennis rally, the goal is to keep the conversation ball in play.

Class 3 *Hygiene*

Bad hygiene habit might cause diseases. The students will be trained in using the right restrooms — not humans' vehicles, hair, or newly washed clothes, meanwhile, sand pools or places that are covered with vegetations are good choices.

Class 4 *Music*

In this session, we are going to learn how to appreciate music art. It is important to understand that never force others to agree with your music taste. Good music is about balance. It is never too loud or too low, too clear or too turbid.

The students will need to read the chapter *"proper music" in "Master Lü's Spring and Autumn Annals" (《吕氏春秋 适音》)*

Class 5 *Preserve the Truth, destroy the desires (存天理，灭人欲)*

A well behaved bird should know how to better control itself. It is not only about following natural instinct to fly, stand, eat, or speak in lines, but also be restrained and listening to orders.

The students will study the famous Neo-Confucianism and learn how to be more rational.

Course Policies:

Grading Policy Evaluation of students' work will be equally based on active participation, presentations, the hosting of one visitor, and the final paper. In-Class Behavior The course will depend on the active participation of all students. On this account, please remain focused during the class. Please do not eat in class and be on time. We will try to discuss thus parallel activities would disturb the concentration of all others. It would be great to see you in class, but if you do feel uncomfortable with your camera on, it is ok to turn it off. In general, we appreciate the presence of sound in the class; but if you have a construction site next door, your roommate whisking cream, your friend repairing an engine etc, please mute yourself.

Please quote properly if you use the ideas of others

Students with Disabilities: Students who have documented disabilities and who want to request accommodations should first \ communicate with their faculty about appropriate classroom accommodations. Students are encouraged to use these procedures early in the semester, so that the proper arrangements can be in place throughout the course

Supplemental materials:

Rules for training your parrots
1. Start Early
2. Set a Good Example
3. Use Expression When You Talk
4. Be Patient
5. Use Word Association
6. Provide Positive Reinforcement and Rewards
7. Keep Your Parrot Close to You